

mon, from the Black to the Red Sea ; and on the 20th of May, 520, Antioch was destroyed, and 250,000 persons were buried in the ruins ; at both these periods, several volcanic cones were active. Soon after the earthquake at Lisbon, in 1755, various parts of the world suffered under the effect of a similar cause ; and within the few succeeding years there happened some of the most violent eruptions that ever afflicted the world. In 1759, the American continent was dreadfully agitated, and Jorulla was in a condition of violent eruption, attended with some most remarkable phenomena. In 1760, fifteen fissures were opened at once, and from each immense volumes of lava were vomited ; and, during the same year, Katlagiaa, in Iceland, broke out with intense paroxysmal violence, attended with such awful volcanic phenomena as were never before seen. Thirty days after the destruction of the city of Caraccas, the volcano of St. Vincent became active ; and at the moment when it broke forth, a subterranean noise was heard, and the earth was shaken over an extent of nearly 2,200 square leagues. From these and numerous similar facts which might be mentioned, it will be evident that earthquakes frequently attend volcanic eruption, and the intensity of the one is generally in proportion to that of the other. Earthquakes, however, have been frequently unattended by eruption, a circumstance that may be explained by the supposition that there was not sufficient energy to form a vent, or that the gases generated by subterranean heat made their escape by some previously existing fissure.

Earthquakes differ greatly in intensity. The agitation produced is sometimes so weak, that it is only sensible to those who are accustomed to such phenomena ; or it may have no other effect than that of shaking the bells and the loose articles of furniture : but at other times, the earth reels like a drunkard, as though moved from the balance which had been assigned to it by its Creator—cities are overturned, districts are laid waste, and the entire aspect of a country is instantly changed—mountains are overthrown, rivers are turned from their courses, and lakes are swallowed by the greedy earth—

“Diseased Nature oftentimes breaks forth
In strange eruptions : oft the teeming earth
Is with a kind of colic pinched and vexed
By the imprisonment of unruly winds